

CITY OF PORT WASHINGTON
HARBOR COMMISSION MEETING
Monday May 14, 2012, 7:00 P.M.
City Hall, Lower Level Conference Room

Members Present

Sue Knauer, Tony Matera, David Larson, Jerry Baganz, Jerry Gruen, and Bill Driscoll

Others Present

Harbor Master Dennis Cherny
City Administrator Mark Grams

1. **Roll Call: (Absent: Dan Herlache)**

Member Jerry Gruen wanted to welcome new member Tony Matera to the Harbor Commission.

2. **Approve Minutes Of Previous Meeting**

David Larson made a motion to approve the minutes and Sue Knauer seconded. Motion carried.

3. **Election Of Chairman And Vice Chairman**

The council did approve the members that were up for re-appointment per Mark Grams. Nominations were opened for Chairman and Jerry Baganz nominated Jerry Gruen and Tony Matera seconded. Motion Carried. Nominations were opened for Vice Chairman and Sue Knauer nominated Jerry Baganz and Dave Larson seconded. Member Jerry Baganz called for discussion and respectfully declined the nomination as he would like to step back from the role of vice chairman. Dan Herlache was nominated by Jerry Baganz and Sue Knauer seconded. Motion carried.

4. **Monthly Financial Report**

City Administrator Mark Grams said there isn't much to report for April as it is still early in the year. As for the December 31st report, he mentioned that the marina did finish in the black by \$43,725. With the downward trend that has been going on to finish in the positive is a plus for us he said. He did mention that we will have to watch this year a little closer with the higher debt service. Harbormaster Cherny added that this year the marina saved on electricity due to the mild winter and the lack of ice-eater use. He estimates that it saved the marina at least \$3,000.

Harbormaster Cherny mentioned that income as of today's date is increasingly better than last year at this time. The marina is up from 33 daily launches last year to 138 this year, 73 season launches last year to 148 this year. Ice is up from \$10 to \$172 and transients are up from 3 last year to 12 this year. If this trend continues we are hopefully looking at a better year.

Member Driscoll asked if the commission could a comparison on the financial statements from last year to this year. Harbormaster Cherny said that it can be done and will include them in the member packets in the future.

5. **Update On Slip Rentals**

Harbormaster Cherny said that as of now the marina has approximately 20 slips open, but the marina continues to get inquiries daily. City Administrator Grams mentioned that the marina should think about advertising. Harbormaster Cherny said that he has never felt the need to advertise but will look into doing it now that we have slips open by posting on the website that the marina has slips available for rent. Member Baganz mentioned that maybe the marina should consider re-pricing the slips to make the 36' slips more attractive and make up for the loss of revenue. Member Baganz thought that it is something that the marina should consider, but to wait and see how the season goes. Member Matera mentioned that after a specific date possibly opening up the 36' slips for the 30' price. Member Driscoll suggested possibly lowering the 36' slip price to a number in between the 30' and 36' slips to make it more attractive. Harbormaster Cherny added that there may not even be a problem. He would like to let it ride until next year and see what happens with the economy. Time will tell, see how the season goes and revisit it at budget time.

6. **Approve Hiring Seasonal Employees**

Harbormaster Cherny said that listed are two returning employees as well as the new hires. Harbormaster Cherny said that this should be it for the year. **Dave Larson made a motion to approve the hiring of seasonal employees and Tony Matera seconded. Motion carried.**

7. **Harbormaster's Report**

Harbormaster Cherny mentioned that the remodeling of the fish cleaning station is complete. He said that everyone seems to love it. There is a larger table and 14 hoses instead of 8 as well as electrical hookups for electric filet knives. The grounds around the station were cleaned and fixed up as well. Member Driscoll mentioned that he had heard of a couple complaints that the hole is smaller and people are afraid the large fish won't make it down. Harbormaster Cherny said that the hole is the same size as it is the same pipe that was there before. The table is just bigger which may make the hole seem smaller or further away. Harbormaster Cherny said that it is a high class outfit now.

He mentioned that he had the some spots in the parking lot ground out and repaired for \$2,500.

Upcoming events that he wanted to mention are National Marina Day which was celebrated last year by opening the marina up to the public. He would like to add a cookout with soda, hot dogs and chips as a nice gesture this year. Member Driscoll asked if the marina would like any Yacht Club participation this year and Harbormaster Cherny thought that would be great. Member Driscoll said that he will send out an e-mail to all the members.

He mentioned that Pirate Fest is coming up on June 1-3, the Double-Handed Sailboat race will take place on the 14th, The LMYA gathering and the Child's Wish outing will take place on the 15-16th, Disabled Vets outing on the 20th and the Great Lakes Sport Fishermen Derby will start on the 29th of June. It will be a busy month. Member Driscoll added that the Community Street Festival will take place on May 27th and three marina tenants will be taking people out on boat cruises that day.

Harbormaster Cherny said that the Great Lakes Sport Fishermen would like to donate a camera similar to the one that Two Rivers has for monitoring lake conditions. Fishermen could access the camera via the internet to look at wave conditions on the lake. It has been very successful in Two Rivers. He said that tenants could use the camera to check on their boats as well. At night the camera could go into 360 degree motion detected surveillance mode. The GLSF would pay for the camera which costs about \$5,000 if the marina would do the install. The installation itself is really simple. The camera just needs to be installed on a pole and then plugged into our computer. Then the marina could post signs that cameras are in use. He said that the GLSF are having a meeting on Wednesday and he hopes to give them the go ahead. The members all agree that Harbormaster Cherny should go ahead with it and they will officially approve at a future meeting as it wasn't on the agenda today.

8. **Marina Tenants' Comments**

Member Gruen questioned if there still was a Marina Tenants' Association as there has not been a representative present at the meetings recently. Member Driscoll mentioned that they did renew their charter and Franz Schubert is looking for a successor as he would like to step down from being in charge of the association.

9. **Any Other Business That May Come Properly Before The Commission**

No comments.

10. **Adjournment**

Dave Larson made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:49 p.m. and Bill Driscoll seconded. Motion carried.